

tation that is apt to attend it, as well as excess of mechanical labour, does but weaken original vigour. Secondly, Designing a group, a landscape, furniture, or the façade of a public edifice from description. Bacon's poetical idea of a villa; the account of such a palace as a Contarini or a Gradignio dwelt in; the rich combinations of a Claude or a Poussin, are fine studies. Here, too, is a beautiful subject for some young man aspiring to the fame of a Grinling Gibbons,—three figures in bas relief. They were two syrens, which, twining their fishy tails together, made a seat, on which was placed, sitting, a naked woman, her arms and the syrens' on each side mutually entwined. Thirdly, Drawing from memory any beautiful object, a cast, cartoon, or painted vase. By such means the inventive faculty may, perhaps, be brought out. Mere copying will not do this, nor will labour, unless well-directed and animated by the spirit of ambition. It is much to the advantage of the artists and of those who superintend them, to the manufacturers, and to the public, to endeavour after this originality.

FARRAICK LUSH.

TELEGRAPH FOR PREVENTION OF FIRE.

It is well known that, from the outbreak of a fire to the arrival of the engines, generally a considerable time elapses: upon some occasions the building is entirely gutted before they can reach the scene of action, and sometimes a life has been sacrificed to the devouring element. To prevent this in a great measure, I propose the following:—

To have at the main points of London an iron post (similar to the ones now belonging to the Telegraph Company, and having their name) fixed, the front to be hung on hinges, thus forming a door, and to be provided with a lock, the key of which to be kept by the policeman whose beat is past that post, the day-man handing it to the one going on duty at nights, and vice versa. Upon a fire breaking out the policeman opens this door, or turning a handle connected with the wire in the street, a bell is rung at the principal fire-establishments: at the same time an arrow points to a number on a dial. The fire-man refers to a book made out for the purpose, and against the number pointed out, sees to what part of London it refers: for instance, if the number is 13, he sees "13, Charing-cross," and proceeds accordingly: thus in some instances an engine might be upon the spot in about ten minutes after the discovery of a fire. It would not require an immense number of these posts, for if the engine proceeds to the vicinity, supposing again, for instance, it is Charing-cross, a very few moments would suffice for them to reach John-street, Adelphi, or any of those courts in St. Martin's-lane, or even the Seven Dials; or supposing the bell is rung from the Eastern Counties Railway, once there the men would soon be at the fire, supposing it at Whitechapel, or Spitalfields, and such like crowded neighbourhoods: of course the policeman's beat would not extend to such a circuit, but the one who was on duty at the spot would soon find him upon proceeding to the post, and springing his rattle.

As a plan has been adopted at one of our large hospitals, where, by merely turning a handle, and causing a hand to point to numbers on a dial, various different messages are delivered, the time of operations, and the arrival of the surgeons, &c., &c., are made known all over the establishment, I do not see how the plan of impossibility can be made.

R. H. D.

ORNAMENTAL WALLING FROM MACHINE-MADE BRICKS.—A correspondent sends us a sketch of ornamental walling, the pillars and copings of which are moulded from tile and pipe machines in the same way as the pipes are moulded for drainage purposes. The first cost is, if anything, less than the ordinary plain brick walling, and the durability fully as great. Any form of pillar and moulding can be adopted suited to the architectural character that is required.

* Envoys.

BRISTOL HIGH CROSS.



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FROM the report of the architect employed, Mr. Norton, it seems that the architectural portion of the High Cross represented above, is completed, and only waits the statues, for which funds are needed. The following are the particulars of expenditure up to this time, showing the present deficiency in the funds:—

1861. ARCHTURAL.	1861. STATUARY.
To subscriptions £50 3 6	By Dighton, for model £21 4 6
Present deficiency to balance.. 170 18 0	Jewitt, for wood-cut.. 8 7 0
	Messrs. Freeman, for granite.. 46 17 0
	Messrs. Webb, for firing ditto, and forming foundations.. 80 12 0
	Printing and sundries.. 24 0 0
	John Thomas, for contract.. 300 0 0

£500 1 3

£500 1 3

As to the sculpture Mr. Thomas says,—"I would undertake to find Cass, Painewick, or Box-hill stone, model and execute four standing figures, 6 feet high, and four sitting figures, 4 feet 6 inches high, to fill the eight niches in the new cross at Bristol, fixed complete, for the sum of 480l. The likeness and costume to be taken from the best authorities."

"The standing figures are taken at 65l. each, the sitting figures at 55l. each."

THE MONTROSE PEEL MONUMENT.—The committee have approved of a design by Mr. Ritchie, of Edinburgh, sculptor, and agreed to his estimate for its execution, with some trifling alterations. The monument is to consist of a freestone statue, 9 feet high, with a pedestal about 12 feet high. The middle of the High-street is recommended as the site.

LIABILITY OF BUILDERS FOR INATTENTION TO BUILDING ACT.

SOUTHWARK COUNTY COURT.—Before Mr. G. CLIVE.—**EVANS v. DICKS.**—The plaintiff in this action, a cowkeeper, sought to recover of the defendant, a master builder of Cross-street, Blackfriars-road, the sum of 17l. 12s. for rent of a carpenter's shed. Defendant, through Mr. Bassell, his attorney, pleaded a set-off of 15l. 7s. 9d. for building the said shed. At the first hearing of the case evidence of a most conflicting nature was given by master carpenters as to the fair charges for the builder's work done in question; plaintiff's witnesses valuing it at one-fourth and one-half the demand, whilst defendant and his witnesses valued it at being too low.

The JUDGE intimated that this was one of those instances where the opinion of the judge could not but be valueless. It was a case which ought to be submitted to a jury of builders having no interest in either party. He must suggest that the parties choose an arbitrator, and agree to abide by the arbitrator's decision. Plaintiff and defendant, at the advice of their solicitors, acceded to this, and mutually appointed Mr. Bond, builder, of Lambeth, as referee. It then transpired that the shed after being constructed by defendant at the plaintiff's express directions and design, was not built in accordance with the Building Act, and that the district surveyor made them pull it down again.

The plaintiff's solicitor contended that the referee should only value the work done as once, and not both the erections. He urged that his client, being ignorant of the provisions of the Building Act, had a right to suppose that the defendant, as a builder, was versed in all matters relative to his trade, and would not commit himself by infringing upon any statute or parochial regulations, which it was clear the defendant had in this case. He would put a test:—Suppose A. contracts or gives orders for a building, and B. erects it, knowing that its construction did not accord with the Building Act, and purposely builds to have a second job, would